

# Faces&Facts

Spring 2001

Newsletter of the Kentucky Commission on Women

Strengthening Kentucky by Strengthening Its Women

## Taking YOUR Voice to Frankfort

### The Kentucky Commission on Women is Coming to a Town Near YOU!!

From April 30 through May 24 the Kentucky Commission on Women (KCW) will host town meetings open to the public in 8 locations around the state. Your participation is key to helping us to identify obstacles to progress facing Kentucky women and your ability to improve your quality of life. We need to hear from you so that we can better advise the Governor, Legislature, and private sector about how *their* decisions impact *your* life.

Please plan to attend the meeting in your region so that we can get your input about the strengths and challenges in your community. Help us *take your voice to Frankfort*.

The meetings will be casual and refreshments will be served. Children are welcome. We encourage you to bring a friend, neighbor, or co-worker and to copy and distribute the enclosed flier.

For more information visit our Web site: <http://women.state.ky.us> or contact Ann Ferrell, (502) 564-6643, [ann.ferrell@mail.state.ky.us](mailto:ann.ferrell@mail.state.ky.us).

"It is important for the Kentucky Commission on Women to go out into the state to hear directly from the women of Kentucky."

- Hannah Hume Baird, Chair

Monday, April 30	HAZARD
Tuesday, May 1	SOMERSET
Monday, May 7	BOWLING GREEN
Tuesday, May 8	MADISONVILLE
Thursday, May 10	NORTHERN KENTUCKY
Tuesday, May 15	LEXINGTON
Thursday, May 17	LOUISVILLE
Thursday, May 24	ASHLAND

See insert for details.



**COMMISSION ON  
WOMEN LIST  
SERV IS UP  
AND RUNNING**

### Secretary Crit Luallen Honored in Washington D.C.

Congratulations to Secretary Crit Luallen for receiving the 2001 Excellence in Leadership Award in the area of state government at the Women Executives in State Government Annual Award Luncheon held in Washington, D.C. on February 23, 2001. Governor Paul Patton nominated Secretary Luallen for the prestigious award, singling her out as one of his top policy advisors, and saying that she "not only meets the challenges of her extremely demanding job, but in her commitment to our Commonwealth consistently goes above and beyond the call of duty. It remains a tremendous privilege to work with someone of her caliber every day to improve the lives of all Kentuckians."



Secretary Crit Luallen accepts the 2001 Excellence in Leadership Award at the Women Executives in State Government Luncheon, Washington D.C.

The Kentucky Commission on Women (KCW) has established a list serv, Kentucky Women-List, and encourages everyone to subscribe. A list serv enables those who join to send e-mail messages to one address, reaching all members on the list.

The KCW listserv is an excellent way to provide rapid information to a growing network of women around the state. We envision the list serv as a means through which women around the state can communicate with *each other* about issues and events.

The Kentucky Women-List is a moderated list serve, which means that KCW staff will review all email messages sent to the List before they are sent on to members. Please feel free to encourage others to join the list.

To subscribe, send an email request to: [<lyris@listserv.state.ky.us>](mailto:lyris@listserv.state.ky.us) with a message "subscribe kentuckywomen".

#### Inside this issue:

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- \* Governor Patton signs Women's History Month Proclamation
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# Kentucky Commission on Women Inducts Three Exceptional Women into the *Kentucky Women Remembered* Exhibit

Kicking off Women's History Month, Governor Paul E. Patton, First Lady Judi Patton, and members of the Kentucky Commission on Women unveiled the 2001 additions to the *Kentucky Women Remembered* exhibit in the Capitol Rotunda on March 2nd. The Kentucky Commission on Women created the original *Kentucky Women Remembered* exhibit in 1978. It included watercolor portraits of outstanding women in Kentucky history and traveled around the state for many years educating Kentuckians about women's contributions to the state. In 1996, with the support of Governor Paul E. Patton and the Kentucky Legislature, the *Kentucky Women Remembered* exhibit was given a permanent home in the State Capitol. This exhibit is one of very few acknowledgments in our state Capitol of the important roles that Kentucky women have played throughout our history. Acknowledging that we have no shortage of outstanding women, each year the Kentucky Commission on Women selects up to three women to induct into the exhibit from those nominated by Kentucky citizens.

This prestigious honor was bestowed on Dr. Anne Braden, Dr. Allie Corbin Hixson, and Senator Georgia Davis Powers.



In 1968 **Senator Georgia Davis Powers** (Jefferson County) became the first African American, man or woman, to hold a seat in the Kentucky State Senate. Once in office, Senator Powers, a fighter for civil rights issues, introduced as her first bill a statewide fair housing law. During her twenty-one years in office, she sponsored legislation prohibiting sex, job, and age discrimination. She is a member of various organizations and the recipient of numerous awards, including honorary doctorate degrees from both the Universities of Kentucky and Louisville. Senator Powers' wish is to be remembered as "one who really cared."

**Dr. Anne Braden** (Jefferson County), in the tradition of the greatest freedom fighters, has spent the last fifty years leading a generation of activists from the labor and civil rights movements. Dr. Braden has been a role model and friend to such well known figures as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Jesse Jackson, Julian Bond, Angela Davis, The Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth, and the Rev. C.T. Vivian. She continues to energize the multi-racial movement for social justice today. Few serious authors on the history of the civil rights movement fail to mention Dr. Braden and her contribution to its progress. Dr. Braden, activist, writer and organizer, embodies a vision of progression and humanitarianism of the highest calling.



Dedicated to women's equality, **Dr. Allie Corbin Hixson** (Adair County) has become one of the most prominent feminist leaders in Kentucky and an important leader in the National Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) Movement. Dr. Hixson served as co-organizer of the Kentucky Pro-ERA Alliance and the Kentucky Women's Agenda Coalition, was elected chair of the Kentucky International Woman's Year in 1977, spoke at the National ERA Rally, worked closely with Lt. Governor Thelma Stovall, among many other activities and achievements. Dr. Hixson is a woman of tremendous achievement against the odds, a woman who worked tirelessly to advance the rights and opportunities of women in her native state and the nation.

The national theme of Women's History month is "celebrating women of courage and vision." I think our nominees this year are wonderful examples of this theme and reflect the qualities found in many Kentucky women.

- First Lady Judi Patton



Governor Paul Patton signed a proclamation of Women's History Month in the Capitol Rotunda on March 2 at the 2001 Kentucky Women Remembered Unveiling. With him are KCW members (from left) Betsy Brinson, Mary Edna Blackmon, Rick Starks, KCW Executive Director Betsy Nowland-Curry, KCW Chair Hannah Hume Baird, First Lady Judi Patton, Donna Peden, Judy Miller, Carla Bass-Miller, Lela Williams, Susan Coblin, Lois Kellogg, Gerri Kinder, Earnestine Christian, Allison Jennings, and Linda Gayheart.



## KCW Makes Plans for Next Initiatives



*Board Members meet at Cumberland Falls to plan next initiatives.*

In January 2001, Hannah Hume Baird, Chair of the Kentucky Commission on Women (KCW), called together KCW boardmembers and staff to meet at Cumberland Falls State Resort Park for a Planning Retreat. During this retreat members looked back at where KCW has been, and where we need to go. KCW has tackled hard issues during its 36+ year history, and has been active in the full spectrum of issues affecting the lives of Kentucky women—from violence against women and women's health, to pay equity and women's history. While these problems have not been solved, KCW has been active in building the structures needed to address these issues.



*Board Members (from left to right) Rick Starks (Warren County), Sara Sidebottom (Kenton County), Daisy Bryant James (Davies County), and Cindy Kruempelman (Boone County) take a break at the planning Retreat.*

## General Assembly Concludes

Kentucky legislators adjourned the 2001 session on March 22, closing out the first ever odd year session of the General Assembly. Last November, Kentucky voters approved a constitutional amend-

ment requiring the General Assembly to meet annually.

Over the course of the session, lawmakers passed bills to clean up abandoned industrial sites, improve the state's mine safety efforts, prevent racial profiling at police departments, and crack down on people who make bomb threats against schools.

Several bills the Kentucky Commission on Women (KCW) monitored were never passed:

*HB 47: Gender equity on boards and commissions.* HB 47 was never passed out of the Senate. The bill would have confirmed the Executive Order signed by Governor Paul Patton calling for gender balance on all state boards and commissions. This was the second year that a bill of this kind has been introduced by Rep. Marzian and failed.

*HB 116: Statewide Fairness and Anti-Discrimination Bill.* HB 116 would have protected all Kentuckians from discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in employment, housing, public accommodations, and insurance. The bill was never heard in the House Judiciary Committee.

Once again, the session was flooded with bills that threatened the reproductive freedom of Kentucky women. These bills were never heard on the House floor this year, however, they will most likely be refiled in 2002.

For more information on specific bills and their outcomes, contact Nicole Morgan (502) 564-6643 or visit <http://women.state.ky.us>

## Record Crowd Gathers to Sharpen Lobbying Skills

Over 100 women attended the Kentucky Commission on Women's 2001 Launching Women Lobbyists event on February 15th. The day was dedicated to educating women about the legislative process in Kentucky and encouraging women to become active participants as citizen lobbyists or volunteers.

The event, held in previous years, drew a record crowd of women from throughout the Commonwealth. The participants heard from lobbyists Darlene

Eakin of the Kentucky Optometric Association, children's advocate Linda Locke, Leah McCormick of the Strategic Alliance Group, Deb Miller of the Kentucky Youth Advocates, Terry Naydan of Kentucky League of Women Voters, Dr. Kim Townley of the Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development, and Beth Wilson of the American Civil Liberties Union; as well as Nicki Patton, Chairwoman of the Kentucky Democratic Party; and Becky Harilson, the Chief of Staff for Senate President David Williams. Legislators who joined in a panel discussion entitled "Communicating with your Legislators" included Rep. Carolyn Belcher, Rep. Barbara Colter, Rep. Mary Lou Marzian, Rep. Marie Rader, Rep. Tanya Pullin, Rep. Robin Webb, and Rep. Susan Westrom.

Throughout the day, women were encouraged to become involved in the political process by getting involved at the local and state level in issues that concern them. Speakers also talked to the attendees about the importance of women's involvement in the political process and the need to raise money for women candidates. The panel of lobbyists gave pointers about the lobbying process and the most effective ways to communicate with your legislators. "As a citizen and lobbyist, you want to get to know your legislator well enough so that if they see you in Kroger's, they can call you by name," said Darlene Eakin.

Leah Ottersbach, a Lexington resident, said the best advice she got was to "be credible. That's great advice, whether you are a beginning lobbyist or advanced."



*Legislators Rep. Westrom, Rep. Pullin, Rep. Webb, Rep. Belcher, Rep. Colter, Rep. Rader, and Rep. Mary Lou Marzian (not pictured) discuss successful ways of communicating with your legislators.*

## Upcoming Events

April 21, 2001: Women's Fest, 10-3 at George Rogers Clark High School in Winchester. Cost of \$6 includes admission and lunch. Events for the day include educational workshops, exhibit booths, fashion show, medical information and door prizes, etc. Free childcare is provided for infant to 7 years. Children's lunch cost is \$2. Contact Clark County Extension Office at (859) 744-4682 for details and registration.

April 21, 2001: Wilderness Road Girl Scouts Annual Meeting, Midway College.

April 22, 2001: Earth Day Hike at Natural Bridge with Wilson Francis, 10:00a.m. Call (859) 622-1644 for more information. Lunch provided.

April 26, 2001: National Take Our Daughters to Work day, 10:45 a.m., Capitol Rotunda. Governor Paul Patton will sign a proclamation recognizing April 26th as Take Our Daughters to Work day.

**April 30, 2001: Kentucky Commission on Women Town Meeting in Hazard**

**May 1, 2001: Kentucky Commission on Women Town Meeting in Somerset.**

**May 7, 2001: Kentucky Commission on Women Town Meeting in Bowling Green.**

May 7, 2001: First Lady Judi Patton's Survivors Tea

May 7, 2001: Lexington NAWBO Winners Circle Award Luncheon honoring Elaine Chao, Hyatt Regency, Lexington, KY, 11:30a.m. For more information contact Shelia Bayes at (859) 225-4043.

**May 8, 2001: Kentucky Commission on Women Town Meeting in Madisonville**

**May 10, 2001: Kentucky Commission on Women Town Meeting in Northern Kentucky.**

**May 15, 2001: Kentucky Commission on Women Town Meeting in Lexington**

**May 17, 2001: Kentucky Commission on Women Town Meeting in Louisville**

May 17-18, 2001: Kentucky Women's Leadership Network Annual Meeting, Midway College. For more information, call Midway College at (859) 846-5310.

May 20-22, 2001: Stennis Conference: Southern Women in Public Service, New Orleans, LA. For more information visit [www.stennis.gov](http://www.stennis.gov).

**May 24, 2001: Kentucky Commission on Women Town Meeting in Ashland**

May 31-June 24, 2001: Actors' Guild of Lexington presents Master Class by Terrence McNally. This Tony Award-winning play recreates classes conducted by legendary opera diva Maria Callas. Call box office for tickets and more information at (859) 233-0663.

June 8, 2001: Boone Day "Play Ball, Kentucky!" Pat Scott keynote speaker. Kentucky History Center, Frankfort, KY. For more information, contact: Joan DiMartino, (502) 564-1792 ext. 4467, [joan.dimartino@mail.state.ky.us](mailto:joan.dimartino@mail.state.ky.us)

June 8-9, 2001: Institute for Women's Policy Research Conference: Facing the Facts, Forging the Future, Washington D.C. For more information visit [www.iwpr.org](http://www.iwpr.org).

**Bookmark the KCW website, <http://women.state.ky.us>, for information and links of interest to Kentucky women!!**

## Faces&Facts



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